1	2	3	4	5
14.	Himachal Pradesh	195	177	206
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	13	5	0
16.	Jharkhand	0	0	0
17.	Karnataka	29	13	0
18.	Kerala	208	168	86
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	22	1	0
21.	Maharashtra	179	146	2
22.	Manipur	0	2	0
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	1	0
26.	Orissa	462	338	63
27.	Pondicherry	2	0	1
28.	Punjab	109	105	85
29.	Rajashtan	12	11	7
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	250	204	33
32.	Tripura	1	6	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	214	179	94
34.	Uttaranchal	10	7	20
35.	West Bengal	579	1451	2529
	TOTAL :	4780	4037	3916

Improvement in power distribution after privatisation

†*8. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the qualitative improvements that have emerged in the field of power distribution as a result of its privatisation in the country;

(b) whether any proposal is being considered by Government regarding restructuring of power distribution model and to encourage lawful competition amongst existing power companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The distribution of electricity has been privatized in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi and in the State of Orissa. Under the Electricity Act, 2003, the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) have

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been entrusted the function of specifying and enforcing the standards with respect to quality, continuity and reliability of services by licenses.

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) has informed the following:

(i) The Aggregate Technical and Commercial Losses (AT&C) have come down from about 50% in 2002 (when the distribution system was privatised) to about 35% in March 2006 and the distribution companies (DISCOMS) have so far achieved the targets for loss reduction.

(ii) At the time of privatisation, the Government of NCT of Delhi was spending about Rs.1200 crores every year on the operation of the Delhi Vidyut Board. This has since got substantially reduced and now, the Government of NCT of Delhi is only spending on the capital expenditure plans of the Generating Companies and the Delhi Transco Ltd. and for providing subsidy to certain groups of consumers in accordance with Section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

In 2005-06, the Government of NCT of Delhi spent about Rs. 91 crore for subsidising the power tariff for domestic and agricultural consumers. This implies that additional funds are now available with the Government for other development schemes.

(iii) Load shedding in Million Units (MU) has reduced from 558 MU in 2001-02 to about 321 MU in 2005-06.

(iv) Distribution Transformer failure rate has reduced from 15% in 2002 to less than 1.5% by the end of FY 2005-06.

(v) Response time for attending to consumer complaints and for giving new connections has come down considerably.

(vi) The available options for payment of electricity bills has increased manifold.

Out of the four distribution companies in Orissa, the management of the Central Electricity Supply Company (CESCO) was vested in an Administrator appointed by the Orissa Electricity Regulatory Commission

(OERC) in the year 2001 consequent to the backing out of AES, the US based company. The performance of the distribution companies in Orissa during the financial year 2005-06 as made available by the OERC are as under:

(i) All the Discoms have achieved the over all standard of performance fixed by OERC during financial year in respect of rectification of fuse-off calls in urban & rural areas except North Electricity Supply Company (NESCO).

(ii) All the Discoms have achieved the overall standard of performance in restoration of line break downs.

(iii) All discoms except NESCO have acieved the overall standard of performance in replacement of distribution transformers.

(iv) In respect of other parameters, the Discoms disposed about more than 90% of the complaints of consumers, cases of reconnection, replacement of meters and release of new connections within the time-frame prescribed by OERC.

As per available information, during January, 2007, there have been no notified power cuts on industry and agricultural consumers are being given 24 hours supply in Orissa.

(b) and (c) The Electricity Act, 2003 has provided for open access in transmision from the outset. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has already issued the enabling regulations for open access in inter-state transmission. This provision has created an all India market for electricity.

The Act also provides for phased introduction of open access in distribution by the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. It provides that the SERC shall, not later than 27th January, 2009, by regulations, provide such open access to all consumers who require a supply of electricity where the maximum power to be made available at any time exceeds one megawatt. Such a consumer would have the option to choose his suppliers other than the distribution licensee of his area.

The Tariff Policy notified by the Central Government provides that in whichever state the situation so permits, the Regulatory Commissions should introduce open access even prior to this deadline. The policy also lays down the methodology for computation of cross subsidy surcharge.

According to the information available, the SERCs of 20 States have issued open access regulations in distribution and 17 SERCs have also specified the method of open access surcharge.

The Electricity Act also provides for grant of license by the Appropriate Commission to two or more persons for distribution of electricity through their own distribution system within the same area, subject to compliance of additional requirements relating to the capital adequacy, credit-worthiness, or code of conduct prescribed by the Central Government. The additional requirements in this regard have also been notified.

Subsidy to solar water heating system

*9. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government purpose to provide subsidy to popularize solar water heaters to conserve energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan to Government to popularize the solar water heating system in the backward Orissa State, which has abundant potential in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) A scheme for promotion of solar water heaters is being implemented through banks and financial institutions. The scheme provides for upfront interest subsidy so that loans are available at an effective interest rate of 2% to domestic users, 3% to institutions and 5% to commercial establishments. Capital subsidy equivalent to upfront interest subsidy is also available to registered institutions and commercial establishments that do not avail loans. 26 banks and financial institutions are presently participating in the implementation of the scheme.

(c) Various initiatives have been taken to popularize solar water heating systems in different States, including Orissa. In addition to financial assistance for installation of the systems, promotional measures are